



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
OFFICE LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS
WASHINGTON DC 20420

NOV 10 2011

Ms. Ami Pendergrass
Staff Attorney
American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE)
80 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-1583

Dear Ms. Pendergrass:

This is in response to the grievance filed on September 22, 2011, alleging the failure of the VA Roseburg Healthcare System to comply with the National MOU regarding VA Directive and Handbook 0730.

The grievance specifically claims that local policy MCM 2708, *Occupational Health Program, Police Physical Fitness and Agility Testing* is contrary to the National MOU, dated October 8, 2008. You specifically argue that under the 2008 MOU, mandatory agility testing as part of physical requirements for VA police officers at the Roseburg VAMC is "neither permissible nor contemplated."

As referred to above, this grievance is related to a local policy. As such, this is a local grievance not a national grievance. However, since an allegation of a violation of a national MOU was made, we investigated the issue. We have been informed that the VAMC is rescinding MCM 2708. Furthermore, we have been informed that any bargaining obligations will be met prior to publishing a local policy on the same subject.

We trust that the above resolves your concerns on this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mauricio Ponce, LMR Specialist at (202) 384-4107 or Larry Mentzer, Chief Human Resources, VAMC Roseburg, Oregon at (541) 440-1000 (x44229).

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Leslie B. Wiggins", is positioned above the typed name.

Leslie B. Wiggins
Deputy Assistant Secretary